

With Democrats and Republicans in Congress unable to find common ground on President Obama's jobs bill, Reps. Peter Welch (D-Vt.) and Peter King (R-N.Y.) are finding bipartisan support for at least one of its provisions.

In a letter to the Committee on Education and Workforce, Welch, King and 11 others are urging that the House to take up the Returning Heroes provision in the President's American Jobs Act. The provision provides tax credits of up to \$9,600 to businesses that hire veterans.

"Veterans are a highly skilled labor force ready to work in every sector of business. But in this tough economy, businesses often need an extra incentive to hire those who have served," the Members write. "...While we may disagree on other sections of the American Jobs Act, we believe this provision deserves swift consideration in the House."

In February, Welch introduced a similar measure – [the Veterans Employment Tax Credit Act](#) – which would provide a similar tax credit to business that hire veterans who have been unemployed for at least four weeks.

The full text of the letter is copied below. Signers include, Reps. Welch (D-Vt.), King (R-N.Y.), Boswell (D-Iowa), Braley (D-Iowa), Dicks (D-Wash.), Filner (D-Calif.), Fitzpatrick (R-Penn.), Grimm (R-N.Y.), Heinrich (D-N.M.), Matsui (D-Hawaii), Poe (R-Texas), Rangel (D-N.Y.) and Norton (D-D.C.).

The Honorable John Kline

Chairman

Committee on Education & Workforce

2181 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable George Miller

Ranking Member

Committee on Education & Workforce

2181 Rayburn House Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Kline and Ranking Member Miller:

We write to you as sponsors of various bills with the same general purpose – to incent businesses to hire veterans.

Veterans are a highly skilled labor force ready to work in every sector of business. But in this tough economy, businesses often need an extra incentive to hire those who have served. Employing our nation's heroes is a bipartisan initiative we can all agree on.

As you know, the President recently unveiled the American Jobs Act, a proposal that contains a provision to incentivize the hiring of veterans. As authors of similar legislation, we ask that the House Education and Workforce Committee consider this provision and bring it to the House

floor for a vote. While we may disagree on other sections of the American Jobs Act, we believe this initiative deserves swift consideration in the House.

We appreciate your consideration of our request and look forward to working with you to help veterans transition back into the workforce.

Sincerely,

PETER WELCH

Member of Congress

PETER KING

Member of Congress